

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Malcolm Bell et al. Art Unit 2612
Serial No.: 10/580,759 Confirmation No. 9448
Filed: May 26, 2006 Examiner: Labaze, Edwyn
For: PACKAGING DEVICE AND CONTAINER FOR SHEET OBJECTS

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT

Via USPTO EFS-Web
Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Amendment
P.O. Box 1450
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Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit this Supplemental Amendment to correct a few clerical errors. No substantive change is requested. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of the instant application, in view of the amendments and remarks filed on July 8, 2008.

Amendments to the claims are included in the claim listing beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 14 of this paper.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) Packaging for a stack of monetary objects, comprising a container to receive the monetary objects, a reusable RFID device disposable in the container and a ~~temper-evident~~ tamper-evident closure member for providing a one-time seal to confine the monetary objects and the RFID device within the container.
2. (canceled)
3. (previously presented) Packaging according to claim 1 wherein the RFID device is a read/write RFID tag.
4. (previously presented) Packaging according to claim 2 wherein the RFID device is a read-only RFID tag.
5. (previously presented) Packaging according to claim 1, containing a stack of sheet monetary objects therein.
6. (previously presented) Packaging according to claim 5 wherein the RFID device comprises a member that forms a base for the stack of sheet monetary objects.
7. (previously presented) Packaging according to claim 2 wherein the RFID device is releasably attached to the underside of the closure member.
8. (previously presented) Packaging according to claim 1 wherein the container is made of recyclable plastics material.

9. (previously presented) A method of processing monetary objects comprising: packaging the monetary objects by stacking them in a container, providing a reusable RFID device disposable within the container and sealing the container with a non-reusable temper-evident closure member after the container becomes full to confine the monetary objects and the RFID.

10. (previously presented) A method according to claim 9 including opening the container, removing the monetary objects from the opened container, removing the RFID device from the container and re-using the RFID device when packaging monetary items in another said container.

11. (previously presented) A method according to claim 10 including sending the opened container to be recycled (S140) after removal of the monetary objects and the RFID device therefrom.

12. (previously presented) A method according to claim 10 including deleting data from the RFID device removed from the container.

13. (previously presented) A method according to claim 9 including recording in the RFID device data corresponding to the monetary objects stacked in the container.

14. (previously presented) A method according to claim 9 including sealing a closure member onto the container with the stack of monetary items therein.

15. (previously presented) A method according to claim 14 including providing the RFID device on the closure member within the container.

16. (previously presented) A method according to claim 9 including providing the RFID device as member that forms a base for the stack of monetary objects.

17. (previously presented) A packaging system for packaging a stack of sheet objects that have an attributable monetary value in a container, comprising

- (i) a packaging device, comprising:
 - means for determining first value data relating to a sheet object to be stacked in the container; and
 - an RF reader/writer for writing said first value data to an RFID device,
- (ii) at least one container configured to be filled with a stack of sheet objects by the packaging device,-and
- (iii)a reusable RFID device disposable within the container, and
- (iv) a non-reusable closure member for providing a one-time seal for the container to confine the stack of sheet objects and the RFID device.

18. (original) A system according to claim 17, comprising first processing means having a first a database for storing said first value data therein.

19. (original) A system according to claim 18, comprising display means for displaying data stored in said first database to a user.

20. (currently amended) A system according to ~~any one of~~ claim 17, comprising:

an unpacking device for removing sheet objects from the container and determining second value data relating to sheet objects removed from the container.

21. (original) A system according to claim 20, wherein the unpacking device comprises RF means for reading the first value data stored on the RFID device.

22. (original) A system according to claim 21, comprising second processing means having a second database for storing the first value data read from the RFID device and the second value data determined by the unpacking device.

23. (original) A system according to claim 22, comprising an alarm, wherein the second processing means is operable to compare said first value data to said second value data and to trigger the alarm in the event that the first value data is not reconciled with the second value data.

24. (original) A system according to claim 22, wherein the second processing means is operable to compare said first value data to said second value data and to control said RF means to delete the first value data from the RFID device in the event that the first value data is reconciled with the second value data.

25. (previously presented) A system according to claim 22, comprising display means for displaying the information stored in the other database to a user.

26. (previously presented) A system according to claim 17, comprising: an RF detector for detecting the RFID device, wherein the RF detector is operable to write tracking information to the RFID device.

27. (previously presented) A system according to claim 26, further comprising a first processing means having a first a database for storing said first value data therein, wherein the RF detector is operable to transmit said tracking information to

the first processing means, and the first processing means is operable to store said tracking information in the first database in association with the first value data.

28. (previously presented) A system according to claim 26, further comprising a second processing means having a second database for storing the first value data read from the RFID device and the second value data determined by the unpacking device, wherein the RF detector is operable to transmit said tracking information to the second processing means, and the second processing means is operable to store said tracking information in the second database in association with the first value data.

29. (previously presented) A system according to claim 26, wherein the tracking information comprises the time and or the date when the RFID device is detected by the RF detector.

30. (previously presented) A system according to claim 17, comprising an alarm and an RF detector for detecting the RFID device, wherein the RF detector is operable to trigger the alarm in response to detecting the RFID device.

31. (previously presented) A system according to claim 17, wherein the packaging device comprises a sealing device for sealing the container and the RFID device is disposed so as to be sealed inside the container.

32. (original) A system according to claim 31, comprising a closure member to be sealed by the sealing device onto the container.

33. (original) A system according to claim 32, wherein the RFID device is releasably attached to the closure member.

34. (previously presented) A system according to, claim 17, wherein the first and/or the second value data relate to the monetary value attributed to said sheet objects and/or the number of sheet objects in said stack.

35. (previously presented) A method of transporting sheet objects that have an attributable monetary value, the method comprising:

determining first value data relating to a stack of sheet objects packaged in a container;

writing said first value data to an RFID device associated with the container; and
sealing the container with a non-reusable closure member to confine the stack of sheet objects packed in the container and the RFID device.

36. (previously presented) A method according to claim 22, comprising storing said first value data in a first database.

37. (previously presented) A method according to claim 35, comprising:
unpacking the stack of sheet objects from the container;
determining second value data relating to the stack of sheet objects;
reading the first value data from the RFID device;
removing the RFID device from the container for re-use; and
storing said first value data and said second value data in a second database.

38. (original) A method according to claim 37, comprising comparing the first value data with the second value data and triggering an alarm in the event that the first value data is not reconciled with the second value data.

39. (original) A method according to claim 37, comprising comparing the first value data with the second value data and deleting the first value data from the RFID device in the event that the first value data is reconciled with the second value data.

40. (previously presented) A method according to, comprising:
sensing the RFID device within a predetermined locality; and
writing tracking information to the RFID device.

41. (original) A method according to claim 40, comprising storing said tracking information in the first database and/or the second database.

42. (previously presented) A method according to claim 40, wherein the tracking information comprises the time and/or the date at which the RFID device is sensed.

43. (previously presented) A method according to claim 15, comprising:
sensing the RFID device within a predetermined locality; and
triggering an alarm.

44. (previously presented) A method according to claim 35, wherein the first and/or the second value data relate to the monetary value attributed to said stack of sheet objects and/or the number of sheet objects in said stack.

45. (previously presented) A packaging system for packaging a stack of sheet objects that have an attributable monetary value in a container, comprising
(i) a packaging device, comprising:
means for determining first value data relating to a sheet object to be stacked in the container; and

an RF reader for reading identification information from an RFID device associated with a container,

(ii) at least one container configured to be filled with a stack of sheet objects by the packaging device,

(iii) a reusable RFID device disposable in the container

(iv) at least one non-reusable closure member for providing a one-time seal to confine the stack of sheet objects and the RFID device, and

(v) first processing means having a first database for storing identification information read from the RFID device in association with said first value data.

46. (original) A system according to claim 45, comprising display means for displaying data stored in said first database to a user.

47. (previously presented) A system according to claim 45, comprising: an unpacking device for removing sheet objects from the container and determining second value data relating to sheet objects removed from the container.

48. (original) A system according to claim 47, wherein the unpacking device comprises RF means for reading the identification information stored on the RFID device.

49. (original) A system according to claim 48, comprising second processing means having a second database for storing the identification information read from the RFID device in association with the second value data determined by the unpacking device.

50. (original) A system according to claim 49, comprising display means for displaying information stored in the second database to a user.

51. (previously presented) A system according to claim 49, wherein said second processing means is operable to send, across a network, a request signal to said first processing means, said request signal relating to the identification information read from the RFID device.

52. (original) A system according to claim 51, wherein the first processing means is operable to transmit data stored in the first database in association with the identification information, across a network, to the second processing means in response to receiving said request signal.

53. (original) A system according to claim 52, wherein the second processing means is operable to store data received from the first processing means in the second database in association with the identification information read from the RFID device.

54. (previously presented) A system according to claim 42, wherein the request signal and/or the data stored in the first database are transmitted over the Internet.

55. (previously presented) A system according to claim 45, comprising: an RF detector for detecting the RFID device, wherein the RF detector is operable to read the identification information stored on the RFID device and to transmit tracking information to the first processing means, the first processing means being operable to store said tracking information in association with the identification information read by the RF detector in said first database.

56. (previously presented) A system according to claim 55, wherein the tracking information comprises the time and or the date when the RFID device is detected by the RF detector.

57. (previously presented) A system according to claim 45, comprising an alarm and an RF detector for detecting the RFID device, wherein the RF detector is operable to trigger the alarm in response to detecting the RFID device.

58. (previously presented) A system according to claim 45, wherein the packaging device comprises a sealing device for sealing the container, and the RFID device is disposed so as to be sealed inside the container.

59. (original) A system according to claim 58, comprising a closure member to be sealed by the sealing device onto the container.

60. (original) A system according to claim 59, wherein the RFID device is releasably attached to the closure member.

61. (previously presented) A system according to claim 45, wherein the first and/or the second value data relate to the monetary value attributed to said sheet objects and/or the number of sheet objects in said stack.

62. (previously presented) A method of transporting sheet objects that have an attributable monetary value, the method comprising:

determining first value data relating to a stack of sheet objects packaged in a container;

reading identification information from a reusable RFID device associated with the container;

storing said identification information in a first database in association with said first value data and

sealing the RFID device inside the container with a non-reusable closure member to provide a one-time seal to confine the RFID and the sheet objects.

63. (original) A method according to claim 62, comprising:
sensing the RFID device within a predetermined locality;
reading the identification information stored on the RFID device; and
storing tracking information on the first database in association with the identification information.

64. (original) A method according to claim 63, wherein the tracking information comprises the time and/or the date at which the RFID device is sensed.

65. (canceled)

66. (previously presented) A method according to claim 63, comprising:
sensing the RFID device within a predetermined locality; and
triggering an alarm.

67. (previously presented) A method according to claim 63, comprising:
unpacking the stack of sheet objects from the container;
determining second value data relating to the stack of sheet objects;
reading the identification information from the RFID device;
retrieving first value data associated with the identification information read from the RFID device from the first database;

storing said first value data and said second value data in a second database in association with the identification information read from the RFID device.

68. (original) A method according to claim 67, comprising:
comparing said first value data with said second value data; and
triggering an alarm in the event that the first value data is not reconciled with the second value data.

69. (original) A method according to claim 68, comprising:
comparing said first value data with said second value data; and
deleting, from the first and/or the second database, data associated with the identification information read from the RFID device, in the event that the first value data is reconciled with the second value data.

70. (previously presented) A method according to, claim 62, wherein the first and/or the second value data relate to the monetary value attributed to said stack of sheet objects and/or the number of sheet objects in said stack.

REMARKS

To supplement Applicants' July 8, 2008 Amendment filed in response to the Examiner's January 31, 2008 Office Action, Applicants have amended claim 1 to correct a certain typographical error. Claim 20 has also been amended to comply with U.S. practice. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added by the instant amendment.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks and the remarks contained in the July 8, 2008 Amendment, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

The Commission is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this response, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0665, Order No. 020305-004011.

Respectfully submitted,
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